

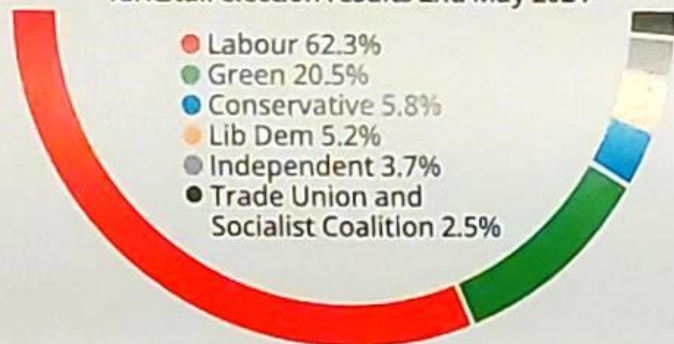
Kirkstall Labour News



Labour wins in Kirkstall at council and general elections

Labour won decisive victories in Kirkstall in the May 2nd council elections and in our constituency, Leeds Central and Headingley, at the July 4th General Election. Kirkstall residents re-elected Councillor Fiona Venner and elected Alex Sobel to be our Member of Parliament.

Kirkstall election results 2nd May 2024



In the council elections, whilst Labour lost 3 seats to the Greens and 1 to the SDP elsewhere in the city, we won 3 seats from the Tories (in Guiseley & Rawdon, Calverley & Farsley and East Ardsley & Robin Hood) and 1 from the Greens in Farnley & Wortley. Labour continues to be in control of Leeds City Council with 60 Labour Councillors of 99. The Conservatives (the second largest group) shrunk to 14 members showing their time is well and truly up, locally, as well as nationally.

In the General Election, Labour had a fantastic set of results in Leeds. As well as retaining our existing Labour seats, Mark Sewards won Leeds South West and Morley from Tory Andrea Jenkyns and Katie White won the new constituency of Leeds North West. We are also extremely proud of our former MP, Rachel Reeves, for becoming the first ever woman Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Alex Sobel was previously the MP for the old Leeds North West constituency and due to boundary changes, is now the MP for Leeds Central and Headingley which Kirkstall is part of.

Alex said,

“It is an honour and a privilege to have earned your trust in the newly formed constituency of Leeds Central & Headingley. This victory is a testament to our shared values and commitment to building a more inclusive, vibrant, and progressive community. I am deeply grateful for your support and excited to begin working together to address the challenges we face and seize the opportunities ahead. As an MP, I remain committed to being accessible and responsive. I encourage you to reach out with any concerns or questions you may have. Your voice is essential in shaping the policies and initiatives that will benefit our community.”

Fiona was re-elected in May for her fourth term, having been a Kirkstall Labour Councillor since 2014.

Fiona said,

“I am delighted that the people of Kirkstall have, once again, shown their faith in me and in Labour. It is a privilege to represent the place where I live and which I love and I will continue to work hard all year round to support our community.”

New bin routes for Burley!



We are delighted that every part of the ward that wanted to go onto alternative weekly collection. Instead of once a month recycling has now switched over. Most of the Kirkstall ward now has a fortnightly green and fortnightly black bin collection. Hannah has been working on this for several years, so it is wonderful to see this improvement.

Refuse is such an important council service and Leeds Labour Group takes it very seriously, which is why we also voted to start kerbside glass collection in the green recycling bins. Since 1st August, you can put glass in your green bin. Please wash bottles and jars out and leave the lids on.

We are aware of some issues with bin collections in parts of the ward. As with any service there are sometimes problems. As your local Councillors we are consistently working with officers to find improvements and solutions to deliver the best service. This means in the most recent route amendments, we secured a smaller bin wagon for our hardest to access streets to improve the reliability of collection. If you think we can help you with improvements to your bin collections, please get in touch.

Advice worker at Kirkstall Valley Development Trust

The Kirkstall, Armley and Bramley Councillors have funded a Generalist Advice Worker from Better Leeds Communities to support our residents with issues relating to debt, finance, benefits, housing and other challenges they may face. The worker is at Kirkstall Valley Development Trust every Wednesday and we have received positive feedback about the support they provide.

LIVE IN KIRKSTALL AND NEED SUPPORT WITH

- BENEFITS AND TAX CREDITS
- DEBT AND MONEY WORRIES
- PROBLEMS AT WORK
- HOUSING ISSUES
- FAMILY MATTERS
- BUDGETING AND BUDGETING

TRY OUR GENERALIST ADVICE SERVICE

APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AT KIRKSTALL VALLEY DEVELOPMENT TRUST ON WEDNESDAYS, BY TELEPHONE OR BY VIDEO CALL
CALL 0113 775 4142 EMAIL ADVICE@BETTERLEEDS.ORG.UK



Councillor and MP surgeries and contact details

The Kirkstall Councillors have two surgeries per month alongside food banks in the ward.

We are at St Matthias Church, Burley Road, on the second Tuesday of every month 10-12 and St Andrew's Church, Butcher Hill, on the fourth Friday of every month 10-12.

St Matthias Church (also known as St Matt's as this is the name of the congregation that worships there) is facing onto Burley Road between St Matthias Street and Wolsley Road. The surgery is in the parish centre, which is behind the church and down a long ramp.

If you would like to see us away from these times or venues, you can contact us on the details opposite and we will either deal with your query by phone or email, or arrange to meet you in a public place.



Cllr Fiona Venner 07749 551732
fiona.venner@leeds.gov.uk



Cllr Andy Rontree 07733 206373
andy.rontree@leeds.gov.uk



Cllr Hannah Bithell 07717 415471
Hannah.bithell@leeds.gov.uk



If you wish to contact our MP, Alex Sobel, his office number is 0113 898 0969
alex.sobel.mp@parliament.uk

Follow the Kirkstall Councillors' page on Facebook facebook.com/KirkstallCouncillors

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Alex Sobel MP

Leeds Central
& Headingley



Dear Constituent,

I am writing to you with immense gratitude following our recent election victory. I am honoured and humbled to be serving as your Member of Parliament for Leeds Central & Headingley under a new Labour Government.

This victory belongs to you. Your dedication, support, and unwavering belief in our shared vision have made this achievement possible. Together, we have sent a powerful message that we stand for fairness, equality, and a brighter future for all.

Our communities in Leeds are strong due to our diversity and the generations of families choosing our city over the last 200 years. My family emigrated to Leeds in the 1970's and everyone, wherever in the world they have come from should have the chance to thrive in our brilliant city. I will continue to support everyone irrespective of nationality, faith or colour and I know we all have something we can contribute and build a stronger community.

Locally, I will focus on:

Improving renters rights: I have been a staunch advocate for renters' rights, playing a pivotal role in advancing the Renters (Reform) Bill to ensure fairer terms and greater security for tenants. I have focused my efforts on abolishing no-fault evictions and improving living conditions for renters.

Protecting our environment: promoting sustainable practices and green initiatives to make Leeds Central & Headingley a leader in combating climate change. I have been named MP Climate Champion in 2020 and Biodiversity Champion in this year's Nature Awards. The new Labour Government has immediately reversed the onshore wind ban put in place under the Conservative Government and banned new oil and gas licenses. I am also the promoter of the nature and climate bill and will work on energy security to bring down your energy bills and reduce emissions.

Improving childrens futures: I will continue to combat child poverty by advocating for increased funding and support for vulnerable families. The Prime Minister has announced a child poverty taskforce to address this issue. I will also be pushing for educational reforms to ensure every child in Leeds Central & Headingley has access to high-quality education and opportunities for success, including assessments for neurodivergency in Leeds. I will push for measures to raise children out of poverty at home, school and in the community.

Enhancing public transportation: investing in reliable, efficient, and affordable transportation options for our community. I am delighted to see that the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, has opened a consultation on the proposed first tram line from Leeds to Bradford and she is bringing buses under public control.

As your MP, I remain committed to being accessible and responsive. I encourage you to reach out with any concerns or questions you may have. Your voice is essential in shaping the policies and initiatives that will benefit our community.

Thank you once again for placing your trust in me. Together, we will build a fairer, greener, and more prosperous future for Leeds Central & Headingley and the entire nation.

Yours sincerely,

Alex Sobel MP

Alex Sobel MP

Leeds Central
& Headingley



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone for putting their trust in me. It is an honour to be re-elected as an MP and to be serving the new constituency of Leeds Central and Headingley.

I will work tirelessly for all my constituents regardless of how you voted on the 4th of July.

The hard work for the people of Leeds Central and Headingley starts now.



A better deal for renters



A new social housing building programme



Ensure children can get timely neurodiversity assessments



Protection of our city's grassroots culture



Empower local leadership



Create Great British Energy for greener cheaper energy for all.

Contact



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[@alexsobel](https://twitter.com/alexsobel)

Labour
and co-operative



Since being elected to the old Leeds North West in 2017 until the election was called in May 2024, I have assisted with over 12,000 cases involving issues with HMRC, the NHS, the police, asylum support, housing, and the DWP, among others.

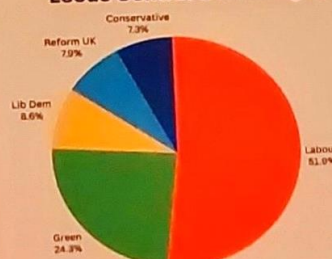
Additionally, I have addressed over 40,000 policy concerns on topics that have been received by constituents, human rights, health, the environment, animal welfare, and international affairs.

I will continue to support constituents in Leeds Central and Headingley with the same due diligence as I have for the last 7 years.

For policy issues or campaigns, please email me at alex@alexsobel.co.uk. For personal matters, email me or call 0113 8980969.

You can also book surgery appointments by contacting my team. These can be conducted via email, phone, online meetings, or in person. My team will help you determine the best option for you.

General Election results 2024
Leeds Central & Headingley



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Newsletter



alexsobel.co.uk